

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20.

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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Office: 201 East Tenth St., Phone 6-6888

TONGUES--- FANATICAL OR SPIRITUAL?

GOD'S INSPIRED REGULATIONS TO CONTROL SPEAKING IN TONGUES

God's Inspired Regulations to Control Speaking in Tongues

This wonderful Bible, God's Word, has all the instructions we need for the churches and the work of the Lord. In II Timothy 3:16 and 17 we are told, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." So we should expect the Bible to give just the proper safeguards on this tongues business. And that is just exactly what it does. If the man of God knows the Bible he is "thoroughly furnished unto all good works." See how completely the Bible safeguards a church from the tongues heresy, if the church simply follows plain instructions given by the Holy Spirit, through Paul. In I Corinthians, chapters 12-14 here are God's rules:

Rule 1. NEVER MAGNIFY THE IMPORTANCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES. "Covet earnestly the BEST gifts," not tongues (I Cor. 12:31). "Desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy" instead of tongues (I Cor. 14:1). "Covet to prophesy" instead of coveting tongues (I Cor. 14:39).

Rule 2. NEVER HAVE MORE THAN TWO, OR AT MOST THREE, TO SPEAK IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES ("Tongues") IN ANY CHURCH SERVICE. "If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three" (I Cor. 14:27). This rule is very plainly stated in the Bible and there is no excuse for breaking it.

Rule 3. NEVER ALLOW MORE THAN ONE TO SPEAK AT A TIME. "If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by course," that is, one by one (I Cor. 14:27).

RULE 4. NEVER IN ANY CASE ALLOW ANYBODY TO SPEAK IN A LANGUAGE UNKNOWN TO THOSE PRESENT EXCEPT SOME ONE PRESENT INTERPRETS WHAT IS SAID. "And let one interpret. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God" (I Cor. 14:27, 28).

RULE 5. HAVE WOMEN KEEP SILENCE IN THE CHURCHES ALTOGETHER IN SUCH MATTERS. "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church" (I Cor. 14:34, 35). This rule is very plain, it is given in the heart of the discussion about tongues and cer-

tainly must apply to speaking with tongues.

Rule 6. "LET ALL THINGS BE DONE DECENTLY AND IN ORDER" (I Cor. 14:40). (a) singing, praying, and speaking with the understanding "that the church may receive edifying" (I Cor. 14:5, 15, 19). According to this, both the one who speaks and those who hear are to understand what is said. (b) Every person who takes part in the services is to keep himself under control. "The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets" (I Cor. 14:32). (c) Let there be no confusion, for "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints" (I Cor. 14:33). It never honors God for unsaved people or ignorant people to think Christians are mad or crazy (I Cor. 14:23).

Study those six rules from the Bible. No one can deny that those rules are plainly given in God's Word and about the tongues question. Where Christians observe these rules, there will be no sham, no confusion, no disgrace and no trouble over the tongues question.

I have repeatedly said and say again where Christian people follow these plain commands of God's Word I will not be afraid of any speaking in tongues they may do in the services in the church where I am pastor or in revivals which I hold. If people of other nationalities are really given the miraculous gift of the Spirit to speak in English to my English speaking congregation, with a message from God, I would be glad for my people to hear it. Or if a foreigner has a message from God to give and gives it orderly and without confusion, and some one can interpret the message so that all of it works out to the edifying of the church such as God has commanded, I would be glad. Or if an English speaking missionary is given miraculous power of God to

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preach the gospel in Spanish to Mexicans so that they understand and are saved, as people understood at Pentecost, I will have no objection. If we follow these rules of God and all remember that the tongues or languages spoken of in the Bible were never a jabber, that they were relatively less important than other gifts and that they were never given simply to make people feel good, then we need not be afraid to follow the exhortation, "forbid not to speak in tongues." I am not afraid of anything God Himself gives. But I do not want any sham, any artificial imitation of Pentecost.

Modern Tongues Movement Represents Perverted Carnal Corinth, Not Spirit-Filled Pentecost
Kindly and prayerfully I have
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

A CALL TO PRAYER

We are asking our friends to join us in prayer during the next two weeks that The Sword of the Lord will be sent to 3,000 new homes during this ten weeks for 10c trial subscription offer. There is no way of estimating the good that will come from sending ten copies of the Sword into 3,000 new homes. If only 300 of our present readers will join us in this expansion campaign, we, like Gideon's Three Hundred, will reach our goal for the Lord. Send your list at once — See our ad on back page of this paper.

Young Preachers Want Work

In the Fundamental Baptist Church in Dallas are a number of earnest young preachers who have formed themselves into the "Evangelistic Ministerial Association." Most of these young preachers are well grounded in the fundamental truths of the Bible, and all of them are clean, prayerful young Christians. Some have had quite a bit of experience in preaching with the blessing of God, supplying pulpits, holding revivals, and winning souls in jails, street meetings and hospitals. If you know a church, school house, or mission point where any of these young preachers could be used for one service or several, please write

BROTHER DELBERT VAUGHN
633 W. Seventh Street
Dallas, Texas

These young men are called of God and are anxious to be of service. They will win souls and are willing, I believe, to go anywhere God leads.

"BEHOLD THE MAN!"

— JOHN 19:5 —

How God Must Become Man to Save Men

Christ is the Son of God. This is so often and so clearly stated in the Bible that one must be an infidel not to believe it. There is no room in Christianity for anybody who does not accept fully the fact that Christ is God. One who does not believe that is not a Christian but a pagan. Jesus Himself said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). He said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). The Father from Heaven at least twice audibly declared that Christ was His own Son (Matt. 3:17; Matt. 17:5). The Old Testament prophets foretold that Jesus, the Son who was to be born, would be called "the mighty God, the everlasting Father" (Isa. 9:6). The apostles joined in the same claim. John's gospel was written to prove that Christ was the Son of God (John 20:31). We are told that Christ was in the beginning with God, and that Christ Himself was the Creator of all things—that "without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3).

By Him God made the worlds (Heb. 1:2). About Christ it is said in Colossians 1:15-19: "Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by him were all things created; that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell." We are told that Christ is the express image of the person of God (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:15) and that it is the will of the Father that our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, should have the preeminence in all things, that everything in Heaven and in earth should be subject to Him. Christ is eternal God, equal with the Father, and we are commanded

to love Him, trust Him, worship Him, obey Him, as God. All judgment is given into His hands. To Him every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess. Christ is God!

The deity of Christ is a fact as obvious as that there is a God. The man who says Christ is not God is exactly the same kind of a fool as the fool that says in his heart there is no God (Psalms 14:1; Luke 24:25). Every unclean spirit Jesus ever met admitted His deity and more than once they cried in effect, "I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God" (Mark 1:24, 34; Mark 3:11; Luke 8:28). Even Satan tempting Christ dared not hint that Christ was not God. The Jews hated Christ and attempted to kill Him, because "He made himself equal with God" (John 5:18). Their charge before Pilate on which He was crucified was that "By our law he ought to die, because he made himself the son of God" (John 19:7). Christ
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Brother I. D. Mangum Announces Bible Mission Baptist Church Opening

Brother I. D. Mangum who has been used of God as pastor of the Lawrence Street Baptist Church has resigned to accept the pastorate of the new Bible Mission Baptist Church, meeting in a nice, rented church building at Ervay and St. Louis Streets. It is a very needy district and we hope that many will pray earnestly that God will use them in winning a multitude of souls. We are glad to publish the following letter from Brother Mangum:

"Bible Mission Baptist Church
1014 South Ervay
Dallas, Texas
January, 1937

"Dear Friend:

"We wish to announce the recent opening of BIBLE MISSION BAPTIST CHURCH, corner Ervay and St. Louis Streets.

"This down town mission church is the termination of four years of ceaseless prayer. Our objective we wish to lay before the Christians of this city who are interested in soul winning.

"At present the work is small but we believe that our Lord can supply abundantly above all we ask or think. We want to maintain our power house of prayer and have it running at all times. We intend to offer Bible courses through the day and also carry on tract distribution and street work outside the regular church activities.

"You are invited to participate in this great and needy field in the heart of our down town district. We solicit your prayers, presence, good-will and support. It is certainly a unique work. We want to carry out that great commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15), and "Go into the highways and hedges" (Luke 14:23).

"As a result of workers going to carry the message on the streets, poor fallen girls, drunken men, dope fiends, and other discouraged and just "down and out," have found the Lord and now have a new start in life.

"Our work is supported by Christians only who give tithes and free will offerings. The Bible and the Bible only is taught. Our workers are trained and work willingly without personal gain. The only requirements to work with them is that one be a Christian and willing to go and pray. Rich and poor, old and young, good and bad alike all have a place here. Come, tell your friends and people about it. Dallas needs a mission and church as its center.

"We would like to have your opinion about our work and if you are interested, write to us about it.

"Sincerely in Christ,

"I. D. Mangum"

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD

TONGUES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

led you thus far. I have no animosity toward Christian brethren who have been misled on this question. Many of those who believe in the modern tongues movement are very earnest, prayerful and consecrated Christians. Yet they are deceived like the Christians at Corinth were. I believe that you have begun to see that the modern tongues movement is not what the disciples had at Pentecost, and in the main is not of God. Sometimes carnal Christians allow themselves to be deceived on this matter because they want the praise of men. It is a very natural thing that those who speak in tongues claim to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and often claim to be entirely sanctified and free from sin. Both are manifestations of dependence upon the flesh, a "holier than thou" attitude. Remember that Paul said that these Christians at Corinth were carnal, were babes, only able to take milk, that they were not spiritual (I Cor 3: 1-4). The people led astray by the modern tongues movement are very much like those led astray by the tongues heresy at Corinth, rebuked and corrected by the apostle Paul.

Notice the things that are going on at Corinth as revealed in I Corinthians 14 and compare them with the services where people claimed to speak in tongues. Have you been in such services? I have a few times and I have talked to hundreds of others. I find that in the following ways Pentecostal

people break the plain commands of God on the tongues question.

1. There is often great confusion, a regular bedlam, many people talking at once or praying or shouting and often many speaking in so-called "tongues." Sometimes there are scenes of indescribable confusion. Some stand, some sit, some lie on the floor or on benches—confusion and disorder. It could not have been worse at Corinth. But if only two people talk in tongues at once, that is confusion and violates the plain command of God.

2. The so-called "tongues" of a Pentecostal service usually do not edify the church, they give no special revelation from God. Often people profess to speak with tongues when there is no interpretation.

3. They often have more than two or three in a service though the Lord said that there shall be but two or the most be three and that by course.

4. Women preachers take a most prominent part in the Pentecostal movement and often women do more talking than the men. I have been told by many, many people that that is usually true. Certainly it has been true where I have observed. In the Pentecostal Bible schools and training schools for Christian workers there are usually, I think, more young women than young men. Aimee Semple McPherson has a whole denominational movement under her leadership. Women have a position plainly denied them by the Bible. If you enforce the rule given by the Holy Spirit, "let your women keep silence in the churches," you will kill the modern tongues movement. I have known of a number of cases where women deserted husband and children, saying that they were called to be evangelists or to preach the gospel among Pentecostal people. Doubtless, Christian women should win souls, should give their testimony and sing, but they are plainly forbidden to speak with tongues, to teach men or usurp authority over men in the churches (I Cor. 14:34, 35; I Tim. 2:12).

5. Fanaticism of various kinds and other false doctrines accompany the tongues movement almost universally. People are sometimes

taught that they cannot be saved except by long seasons of prayer and mourning. Dependence is put upon feeling and emotion rather than on faith based on the plain statements of God's Word. Pentecostal people very generally confuse salvation and sinless perfection. Some groups who hold to the tongues movement teach that unless one is living a perfect life he is not a Christian. As far as I know, all the people who adhere to the modern tongues movement, the Pentecostal movement in general, do not believe in the security of a believer. They do not have a clear conception of salvation wholly of grace without works and received simply by immediate personal faith. Often the children of active and earnest Pentecostal people are exceptionally difficult to win to Christ. The company that the tongues movement keeps should make us suspicious of it. Any movement that involves the claim of sinless perfection, depends largely on women preachers, results in confusion in the churches and denies the eternal security of those who are born again, is certainly very likely to be wrong. We have proven from the Bible that the tongues movement is wrong. The modern tongues movement represents perverted carnal Corinth. It does not represent the Christians of Spirit-filled Pentecost.

Back To Pentecost

I have been warning you of the mistakes and danger of the modern tongues movement. Now let me still deal frankly and say that that is not our principal danger. The greatest danger of the churches of God is not a false fire, but no fire at all! I am NOT warning you to beware of spiritual gifts, but I AM warning you not to let something else keep you from the best spiritual gifts. Our Pentecostal brethren are wrong on some things, but we can learn profound and blessed lessons from them. Beware lest while you try to avoid all fanaticism, you also avoid zeal and fervor and holy earnestness! Christians today sometimes try so hard to miss the errors of Corinth that they miss the power of Pentecost!

We do not need to ask for the sound of rushing mighty wind, or the visible tongues of fire sitting on us. Certainly we do not need the power to speak in some unknown language that helps nobody, wins nobody, does not edify the church. These things were incidentals in Bible times and they are incidentals now. The thing the apostles prayed for was the power of the Holy Spirit and that power they had. I believe in going back to Pentecost. By that I mean that we can have the same power of the Holy Spirit, the same anointing for service as they had. We need a breath of heaven upon our ministry. We need a zeal that is of God, an abandon, a Spirit-brought compassion, a divine power on our witnessing that New Testament Christians had. We need our prayers answered the same, we need our hearts made happy the same as Christians in Bible times. Far better to have some of the fanaticism of vigorous, young life than to have the coldness of spiritual death! But if we are filled with the Spirit of God and follow His Word we will have neither. God knows that in our churches is a deadness, a powerlessness, a prayerlessness, a lovelessness, a joylessness, in all to many cases, that is just as bad heresy as the wildest excesses that ever accompanied the tongues movement. We must not imitate the gifts of the Spirit, but let us all confess here and now that we must have the presence and power and fullness of the Spirit of God, if we are to please God at all. We need to learn from the good points as well as the bad points of the people of the Pentecostal and tongues movement. Their belief in prayer, their efforts to live a separated life, their insistence that Christians today should live and work and be blessed like Christians in the Bible should humble our hearts and provoke us to do likewise. IF THE GREAT MASS OF CHURCHES AND CHRISTIANS HAD KNOWN AND EXEMPLIFIED THE FULLNESS OF THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OUR SERVICES AND OUR DAILY LIVES, THERE WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ANY MODERN TONGUES MOVEMENT. Our heresy of not

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

is the miraculously-conceived, virgin-born, pre-existent Son of God. Let every lover of the Lord Jesus hold fast to this foundation doctrine and call no man a Christian brother who denies that Christ is what He claimed to be, the very Son of God.

But He Called Himself "The Son of Man"

It is not hard to make intelligent, honest people believe that Christ is the Son of God, but to conceive that this God came in the flesh and took on Himself the form of a servant, even the form of a man—that is difficult. Christ declared Himself to be the Son of God, but He spent no time arguing about it. The proof was too obvious. When Satan asked Him to show His supernatural power in the temptation, He refused. He refused to work miracles before Herod. He deliberately hid His power from the scoffing Pharisees. Repeatedly after marvelous miracles of healing, He instructed the one healed not to make it known (Luke 8:56; Matt. 8:4; Matt. 9:30). It is not true that the miracles of Jesus were simply to prove that He was the Son of God. It is a remarkable thing that Jesus put the emphasis continually on the fact that He was a MAN! Though He could have called Himself "the almighty, eternal God" or "the son of God," yet He regularly called Himself instead, "THE SON OF MAN!" That title, "The Son of man" is recorded eighty-two times in the gospels as falling from His own lips. He loved to be known as "The Son of man."

Christians, we will never know the love and mercy of God toward sinners until we understand that Christ became flesh and dwelt among us as a man.

When Pilate said, "Behold the man," he was right. Our Lord and Saviour is a man! As a man, as a human being, He was born, He lived, He toiled, He was tempted, He ministered, He taught, He was betrayed, was tried and crucified. As a man He was buried and arose and ascended! Behold the man!

I ask you to feast with me on the riches of God's Word concerning the humanity of Jesus, His incarnation in human flesh, His humility in taking the form of a servant, His glorious fitness to be our Saviour since He too, was a man.

He Was Promised Aforetime As A Man

The first recorded promise of a coming Saviour was given just outside the gate of the garden of Eden. The ruin of the human race had been accomplished by Satan. In the first man Adam, all had died. God killed beasts, clothed the shamed sinners in coats of skin—the first shedding of blood, the first type of mercy and atonement. Then God promised that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head and that the serpent should bruise his heel (Gen. 3:15). The coming Saviour must be "the seed of the woman." The longed-for Saviour, coming to redeem man, would be (oh, blessed thought!) a man and so would understand men. On man's side, such a Saviour would be fit to trust. On God's side, such a Saviour would be fit to substitute to bear the sins of men. Thus from the time that Eve, the first woman, for the first time, went through the pangs of motherhood and said, "I have gotten A MAN from the Lord" thousands, perhaps millions of women each dreamed and hoped that the coming MAN who would

crush Satan's head and redeem men, should be born of her womb and partake of her flesh and bones.

"Abraham saw my day and was glad," Jesus said. To Abraham and his seed were the promises given and that holy Seed, who should with Abraham inherit the land of Canaan forever, must be a man who would come from the loins of Abraham, descended through Isaac. The Christ must be of Abraham's humanity.

The coming MAN was promised to David as his seed. In II Sam. 7:10-16, in the 89th Psalm and elsewhere, the Lord promised David that in the future his throne at Jerusalem would be established forever to his seed. The coming King must be of the seed of David, that is, literally a descendant of his and therefore a man. Besides, the throne mentioned was a human literal throne and requires a literal human person to sit upon it.

God revealed to Isaiah that a virgin should conceive and bring forth a Son, Immanuel, or God with us (Isa. 7:14). Again He said, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). It was Isaiah who knew that "A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest: as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land" (Isa. 32:2). It was Isaiah, too, to whom was revealed the coming Saviour as "the MAN of sorrows, and acquainted with grief."

Even to Mary, the angel Gabriel said, "Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son and shall call his name Jesus" and then that this Son, this man, should be "the son of God."

The Birth of Christ, A Human Birth

It is not strange that Jesus was born of a virgin. The Son of God could not have been born any other way. It is strange and unnatural to suppose the Son of God could be born any other way. I say, the virgin birth causes me no trouble. But I am lost in awe and wonder at the thought that He should be born at all! It is not amazing that Christ would be born as the Son of God must be born, with no human father, but it is the most amazing thing that human ear ever heard that one who is the Son of God would consent to be born at all of a human mother, that He should love men enough or have any purpose great enough that the Son of God should give up His glory as God and become a man! The Saviour came into the world through the same portals as every human being who ever walked this earth, save only Adam and Eve who were made flesh from the hand of God. The Creator of the heavens and earth was formed and borne in the body of a woman. He nursed at a woman's breast and

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamental Baptist Church

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"BEHOLD THE MAN!"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

smiled into a mother's face and learned from a mother's tongue and was dandled on a mother's knee and led by a mother's hand. The birth of Christ not only glorified motherhood and babyhood, it is an omen of hope for all mankind. The Son of God has become a man and that for love of men, to make a perfect pattern, to atone for men, to suffer for men, to die for men, to meditate between God and man!

Not much is said of the babyhood and youth of Jesus in the Bible but evidently that much is given to emphasize His perfect humanity. Babyhood is not the mark of a God but the mark of a man! A God could not be helpless as a baby without becoming man. A God could not be ignorant like a baby without becoming man. I could not understand how God could "grow in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man," as the Scripture says that He did, (Luke 2:52) until it dawned upon me that Christ had left His glory, in some sense, left the characteristics of deity in Heaven. He emptied Himself of His wisdom and chose to be ignorant as a baby so that He, like all other men, could grow in wisdom. Here I take off my shoes and tread softly with a holy reverence, conscious of my own ignorance and inability to discuss such a theme and yet I know that Christ some way left even the favor of God in Heaven. When Christ was born of a virgin He laid aside those things that would give Him unfair advantage over other men and entered the race of life. Christ won, without sin, where no one else ever did and grew in favor with God. He said, "I do always those things that please him" (John 8:29). The Father said at His baptism, "I am well pleased," and in Hebrews 2:10 we are told that the captain of our salvation is made perfect (or complete) through suffering.

So Jesus, when He came into this world was so much a man and left behind so many of His qualities as God, that He needed to grow in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man. We are to believe that He could not talk until He learned to talk. He could not walk until He learned to walk, doubtless with many failures like other babies. I believe He could not read until He learned to read and that He did not know the Scriptures until He learned them, as we must do. Catholics have some traditions about miracles worked by the child Jesus, but there is not a hint of anything of the kind in the Word of God. We know that Jesus grew, that He was subject to His mother and foster-father, that He was as human as

any other child ever born. He did not sin, and He showed an aptitude for spiritual things that we poor sinful beings do not have. But His sinless virtue, His anxiety to be about His father's business were not simply divine characteristics that He brought into this world. Rather they were His own deliberate choice as a human being—a perfect and sinless human being, the only one that ever existed after the garden of Eden, but yet a human being.

Christ Lived As A Man

The incarnation of Christ was essential as He went to take man's place. A God is never tired. A God never despairs. The Scripture says that God cannot be tempted to do evil (James 1:13). So if God is ever to take the place of a weary, despairing and tempted human being, then this God must become a man. Our Lord Jesus, the Man, worked in the carpenter shop for He was called "the carpenter" (Mark 6:3). There is much to indicate that He was the principal support of His mother. Joseph is never spoken of after Christ was twelve years old and we suppose that he died before the further record resumes.

The parables of Jesus prove that He knew the labor of the shepherd and the farmer. His hand fitted the hammer and the saw and I doubt not there were callouses there. The Lord Jesus could never have said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest . . . for I am meek and lowly in heart" unless He had first become a man and knew the laborer's burdens and sorrows.

The Saviour could never be poor until He became a man. God, the Creator of all things is not poor and could not be poor except as He entered into human flesh and gave up His glory, power and riches. A poverty-stricken mortal could never feel that God knew the depth of his woe unless God should consent to become poor. We are told about Jesus that "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (II Cor. 8:9).

The humanity of Jesus makes Him approachable. When God spoke in thunderous voice from smoking Sinai, the people were awed and frightened as they ought to have been. They begged Moses that God should never speak to them again but rather that he, a man, should get the message from God and bring it to them (Exo. 20:18, 19).

The hungry hearted, distraught Moses pleaded with God that he might see His glory, but could not. God put him in a cliff of the rock and passed by that he might see His back parts. Multitudes of others have hungered for just what Moses needed; for some way to see God. How Moses must have delighted when he met Jesus on the mount of transfiguration, and seeing Him, saw the glory and beauty of the Father! We are told that "No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (John 1:18). Again we are told, "For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ! Behold THE MAN, the Man who reveals God!"

Man could not look on the august and terrible face of the living God and live (Exodus 33:20).

But when Jesus came in human form, multiplied thousands thronged Him to hear every word that fell from His lips. Beggars

accosted Him, lepers asked for and got cleansing. The woman who was a sinner was not afraid to weep over the human feet of the human Jesus, and then to wipe those feet with the hairs of her head. John the beloved even lay his head on the human breast of our Saviour and heard His heartbeat. The traitor, Judas, was not afraid to kiss His cheek. They took the scarred, abused human body of our Saviour from the cross and loving hands wrapped that cold but adorable flesh in spices "as the manner of the Jews is to bury." Whatever their reverence, their love and tears, they were not afraid to handle that beloved body. It was a human body and in some sense it was their own. Even after His resurrection, Mary held Him by the feet, and doubting Thomas was free to feel the nail prints in His hands and thrust His hand into the wounded side. Christ had to be human to be approachable. All glory to Jesus that He became a man for our sake! Now the poorest and humblest need not be afraid to enter boldly into the presence of Christ! God could give the inspired Scripture that "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame, he remembereth that we are dust" (Psalms 103:13, 14), but man could never understand that Scripture nor quite believe it, until God demonstrated it in the flesh. One demonstration is worth a thousand arguments, we are told. Christ is the human demonstration of God's condescension, His seeking, His unselfish and limitless love and mercy to man. We are told that it is easier to learn through the "eye-gate" than through the "ear-gate." Geometry is illustrated by drawings, arithmetic is best written down in figures. Geography cannot be learned without maps, and even stories need to be illustrated with pictures. The human face of Jesus Christ is the convincing illustration of God's love. The outstretched human arms of Jesus on the cross are the visible map of God's compassion in the geography of the world according to John 3:16! No mathematics could ever compute for man the awful price of sin and the conclusive proof that the price is paid, like the visible torrent of blood that gushed out from the wounded side of the Saviour or the trickle that ran down from His face, His hands, and His feet!

Oh, Thou unapproachable, eternal God, I never knew that You loved me until I saw Jesus! I never knew that I could approach Thee until He touched me! I never knew that Thou didst long to forgive me until I heard His human voice cry, "Father, forgive them!" God had to become a man before man could ever feel free to approach God.

The Marvelous Works of Christ Were the Works of Man

I have told you that I know Christ is very God. I would not take one gleam from the glory of His crown, but like Thomas I would fall at His feet and say, "My Lord and my God." Yet I would have you to know, if possible, more of the fullness of His humanity. So I tell you this first, that to me seems amazing, the miracles that Jesus worked He worked not with His own preëxistent, glorious power as the Son of God. Rather His mighty works were done as a Spirit-filled man. He who made the world and into whose hand all judgment was given by the Father, yet chose to do nothing except by direct instruction from God. In the creation Christ said, "Let there be light: and there was light" and at His word every created thing came into being. Yet on earth this same Christ gave aside that power and as a man He said, "The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works." So Jesus worked no miracles in His babyhood and boyhood. He could have done so but He chose not to. He lived a perfect, sinless, human life until His baptism when His public ministry began. At His baptism and when Jesus prayed, the Holy Spirit came upon Him (Luke 4:1). To Him the Spirit was given without measure (John the 3rd chapter). From that time forth He was filled with the Spirit, led by the Holy Spirit. The supernatural power that Jesus manifested was

the power of the Holy Spirit. He had divested Himself of His power as the Son so that He might take just the power that was available to every other human being, the power of the Holy Ghost! After the Holy Spirit came upon Him came the first miracle at Cana of Galilee. After the Holy Spirit came upon Him He entered into the synagogue at Nazareth and taught as He had never done before. He read from Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor . . ." and then said, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears" (Luke 4:14-22). The marvels of His public ministry followed but they were the marvels of a perfect MAN, perfectly filled with the Spirit of God. For this reason Jesus could say to His disciples, "The works that I do shall he do also; and the greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12). Other human beings after they are saved could be filled with the Spirit too and win souls with the same power of the Spirit that Jesus used. He came to His disciples after His resurrection and said, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" and He breathed upon them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost" (John 20:21, 22). The point is that the ministry of Christ was a human ministry. His miracles were in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in His own power as the Son of God. His preaching was in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in the power of God at Sinai, not in His own creative power. He preached as a servant of God and prophet of God, a pattern and example to every Christian. There are those that believe that the miracles of Christ were the proof that He is the Son of God but not so. If so, then that puts multitudes of others in the same class with Christ and Old Testament prophets. The twelve apostles, the seventy, deacons Stephen and Philip, and others of Bible times worked miracles in the power of the Holy Spirit. Christ raised Lazarus from the dead and the widow's son of Nain. But so did Elijah raise the widow's son, and Elisha the son of the Shunammite woman, while Dorcas rose from the dead at the voice of Peter, and Eutychus when embraced by Paul. The miracles proved that Christ was what He said He was. But miracles do not themselves prove one is God. Christ worked miracles just like the apostles and prophets did, with the power of the Holy Spirit and He preached and won souls like any Christian may do, in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is because He humbled Himself, gave up His glory and left His heavenly garments to become a man, to live as a man, to serve as a man, and to die as a man and for men.

What a comfort it must be to a Christian that He never asks us to do anything except what He has already done, with the same powers that are available for us. The humanity of Jesus is the only way He could be an example to us. If Christ had not loved to call Himself, "The son of man," then He could never have said to us, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men," or "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Nor could His lowliness, His humility, His forgiveness be held up as our example. Paul could never have written "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:5-8). Since Christ became a man, He becomes our perfect pattern and we are told that "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Pet. 2:21). Any Christian who wants to serve God must first pause and look upon that thorn-crowned figure denying Himself, who was introduced to the multitudes by Pilate by these words, "Behold the man!"

The Temptation of Jesus Was the Temptation of Man

When Jesus went into the wilderness to be tempted of Satan

He went as a man. He well knew how frail was human strength. If Christ enters into that contest with the enemy of our souls and wins, then the cards must not be stacked in His favor. What comfort would it be to me that Christ was tempted in all points like I am if He carried to the temptation weapons that I cannot carry and had help that I cannot expect? And why would Jesus be fit to die for my sins in such a case? How would I know, how would Satan know, that Jesus would do any better than I do if He were placed in my shoes? No, if the temptation of Jesus is to mean anything to God, to Satan and to men, then He must meet it like a man. For that reason He went forty days without food. Men are sometimes tempted when they are hungry so Jesus must be as hungry as any man would be. Sometimes men are tempted when they are so weak and frail bodily that they have not a fair chance it seems to reject the Evil One. Their strength is so small. So the Lord Jesus resolved to enter into this contest as weak as any man ever entered a contest with Satan. On this very point Satan tried to trap Christ. Since He was the Son of God why not eat bread? Why not, with His divine power? This Jesus refused to do. He stood before Satan that day in the same human form as John Rice must meet Satan many a time. If Jesus escapes only as God then how can John Rice escape who is not God? No, Christ entered that contest to be a man and to be tempted like a man. He had the strength of the Holy Spirit as every man can have. He had even the ministry of angels when it was over for the angels are ministering spirits to all of us who are the heirs of salvation. Jesus had the Word of God and every child of God can have that. Jesus demonstrated in His temptation that every man has enough heavenly resources at hand to defeat Satan if we but humbly and faithfully use our weapons which are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.

My heart was inexpressibly blessed last Sunday afternoon in studying this subject when I saw for the first time that Jesus selected a Scripture to use in defeating Satan that He could not have used except in the place of a man. When Satan suggested, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread" (Matt. 4:3), then Jesus answered and said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Satan slyly tried to tempt Jesus to face the temptation as the Son of God.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

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"Behold The Man!"

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Instead Jesus quoted Scripture from Deuteronomy 8:3 which says, "MAN shall not live by bread alone." In effect it seems to me that Jesus said, "Satan, as Son of God, I saw you fall as lightning from Heaven and I know of your ultimate and eternal downfall. But today I face you as a man, a pattern for all the men who will ever meet you and your temptations. Today I come as hungry and tired as any man who will ever be tempted; but I was led here by the Spirit. I am in the will of my Father. I will rely upon the power of the Spirit and upon the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. I answer you then with a Scripture written for all men and apply it to myself, 'Man shall not

live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'" So might Jesus have spoken to Satan. Some way I am not as afraid of the devil now since Jesus whipped him as a man. I can now believe that "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it," even as He said (I Cor. 10:13). The fact that God can control Satan, can cast him out of Heaven and is certain to eventually put him down forever is sweet to my soul. I am glad it is true, though it does not particularly help me when I come to temptation. But the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ, in human body, met Satan one day in the wilder-

ness and defeated him, yea, and defeated him again and again in life, in death, in resurrection, with only such weapons as are available to every child of God; thank God that gives me a strength and a courage I could never otherwise have. If Jesus the man could say that He needed to live by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God, then so do I. If He was safe when led by the Spirit, even though fasting forty days in the presence of Satan, then so am I! I do often fail when I am tempted but there is a way of escape provided in every case. Christ, the man, took that way of escape and shows it to me.

Christ Died As A Man

There are two awful, tremendous facts made clear by the crucifixion of Christ. One is the stupendous,

insatiable sinfulness of man and the other is the infinite, measureless mercy of God. All things are judged by the cross, both man and God. Only a race of men degenerate, sin possessed, with wilful malice toward God and right would shamefully crucify the Son of God. As Jewish leaders, the mob, with Herod and Pontius Pilate all joined in the crucifixion, so the whole race, Jews and Gentiles, are guilty of the death of Christ. Cain, Korah and Judas and the Antichrist are alike proper representatives of the human race. Every unconverted man in the world is lost because He hates Christ, the light, and deliberately chooses the wrong. And those of us who are converted first rejected and despised the Lord and were guilty of His death. Nothing proves the depravity of the human heart like the crucifixion of Christ and Christ is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, that is, continually slain by sinners, and thus the crucifixion is a continual monument and witness against the race of mankind. On the other hand, the cross is the best evidence that even God could give that He loved men. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son."

But had you realized that the crucifixion was impossible without the incarnation? Men may hate God but the world would never know it unless God came in the flesh. Men could not spit in the face of God. They did spit in the face of Jesus Christ, His Son, in the flesh (Matt. 26:67; Matt. 27:30). They could not pluck out the beard of God, but they did the beard of Christ (Isa. 50:6). When they scourged the human body of Jesus, it only showed what the human race would have done to God long ago but never before had God appeared in human form. Millions have been wicked enough to drive nails into the hand of God or give Him vinegar and gall to drink or thrust Him with a spear and mock Him while He died, but God is a Spirit, God did not have hands and feet, God had no sides out of which could flow blood and water until Jesus came in the flesh like a man. The men did to Christ, the Man with a human body, what they could not do to God. And the boasts of godless Russia today that they have done away with the rulers on earth and now must eliminate the rulers of Heaven but show that inherently the unconverted human heart would do the same again if but God appeared again in human flesh. The crucifixion, revealing the wickedness of and the love of God, was utterly impossible until Christ became man. Pilate was right when he stood Jesus before the multitude and said, "Behold the man!" That figure crowned with thorns, covered with a purple robe of mockery, with spit upon His face and with a bleeding back, with a weed in His hand for a sceptre was the figure of a man, and on that fact, there hangs the eternal safety of every redeemed soul.

For Christ could not be a substitute for man unless He were a man. The only way the Son of God could be a fit substitute for man was to become a man Himself. He must be a man of like feelings, a man of like temptations, and yet without sin, before He could take a man's place.

When a football game is in progress, the coach may put in a substitute, but the substitute must be just as eligible as the man he replaces. He must be from the same school, meet the same scholastic requirements, even know the same signals. So the Lord Jesus, before He could become our substitute, must become a man. My heart runs over with worship and a glad reverential joy fills my heart as I see that Christ became a man that He might take my place, suffer for my sins, pay my debt, and redeem me to God. There are mysteries here so deep we cannot completely fathom them until we awake in His likeness, but if we dwell on the infinite condescension necessary for God to become a servant, for the Son of God to become a man, for the Creator of all the worlds to become a little lower than the angels, then surely, the love and gratitude of our hearts will be enlarged toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Resurrection and Ascension
Of Christ As A Man
God could not die until He be-

came a man and God could not raise from the dead. As only a man can die, so only a man can raise from the dead.

I am so glad that Christ became a man and as a man conquered death, Hell and the grave. When I go out to the cemetery and look into the cold, bare clay of a grave, I cannot somehow comprehend the certainty of a resurrection, brought about by loving God, except as I realize that Christ Himself is risen from the dead. Tear-dimmed eyes need very clear and simple evidence. Torn and bleeding hearts need more than promises—they need a demonstration, and thank God, our Lord Jesus Christ has demonstrated the resurrection! I have unmistakable evidence and many infallible proofs of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. His poor cold body was buried away but on the third day He arose again. The resurrection was literal and physical. The napkin was folded by itself and other garments lay in their place in Joseph's new tomb. An angel rolled back the stone from the door so that the physical human body of Jesus, glorified but still human like our own body will be when glorified, could come forth. That resurrected body, that human body of Jesus, ate before the disciples to show that He was not only spirit but flesh and bones (Luke 24:39). He invited them to touch the scars of the nails and the wound of the spear. With tender hands He cooked for them beside the sea of Galilee with fish and bread on a fire of coals in the early dawn (John 21:9).

How sweet this is to me. I will see my mother again, not just some spirit, but my mother with hands and feet. I think she will have again the long black hair that lay on her pillow the day she died. I think I shall see her smile and feel her hand upon my head and kiss her then as I kissed her goodbye when she told us she was going and smiled and fell asleep. Do not take from me my human Christ, my Christ with a human body! He met all the foes of man and conquered them. He met all the woes of man and suffered them. He saw all the sins of men and suffered for them, paid for them. He knows all the hearts of frail, sinning humanity and yet He loves men! Behold the Man!

I do not wonder that Paul and Barnabas preached, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; and by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" (Acts 13:38, 39). Paul wrote to Timothy, "There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the MAN Christ Jesus."

Christ, the Only Hope For Me

Some sinner may read this who has never had peace with God. The only way is through Jesus Christ, the God-Man. He knows your sorrows. He felt your temptations. He paid for your sins. Today if you will trust Him with all your heart, this Man, Christ Jesus, will become your Saviour, your Lord, your God.

Oh Man, Oh Man of Galilee!
Draw near and lay Thy hand on me.

Of all the world I want but Thee,
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